

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1171
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2001
AFFORESTATION PROGRAMME IN RAILWAYS
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any target has been fixed under the afforestation programme in railways in order to earn profit every year;
- (b) if so, the break up about the profit and loss in each railway zone under the afforestation programme during the last three years and the current year, till date;
- (c) whether the Government propose to encourage the commercial utilization of the railway land through afforestation programmes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) and (b): Plantation is undertaken on railway land till such time the land is required by Railways for its own use. This helps in improving the environment. In the process, Railways have developed large wealth of trees which have become mature and can be harvested. No profit or loss account is maintained by Railways for such harvesting which is incidental to Railways endeavour to improve ecological balance as also to protect railway land.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. With a view to streamline afforestation over railway land, Railways have decided to undertake plantation through professional groups. Under the proposed scheme, plantation, protection and management of trees would be done by the professional parties with their resources and the profit would be shared by them with the Railways in pre-determined proportions.